abandoned, which is a Continuation-In-Part of application Serial No. 572,284, now abandoned, which is a Continuation-In-Part of application Serial No. 520,935, filed May 9, 1990, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 455,708, filed December 22, 1989, now abandoned.

Applicants note that a Petition for Extension of Time has been timely filed in the '151 application, extending time for response to an Office Action pending in the '151 application for three months, from August 12, 1999 up to and including November 12, 1999.

With this Preliminary Amendment, Claims 1-32, which were pending in the parent '151 application, have been canceled without prejudice to Applicants' right to pursue the subject matter of the canceled claims in other applications, and have been replaced with new Claims 33-38. Thus, Claims 33-38 are currently pending in this application.

Claims 33-38 are directed to monoclonal antibodies which specifically react with cytotoxic lymphocyte maturation factor (CLMF). Claims 33-38 are fully supported by the instant specification.

Claims 33 and 34 are directed to a monoclonal antibody which specifically reacts with CLMF protein, said CLMF protein comprising a subunit of 40 kD under reducing conditions comprising the amino acid sequence of instant application Figure 25A-25D from amino acid residues 23 to 328, and a subunit of 30-35 kD under reducing conditions comprising

the amino acid sequence of instant application Figure 26A-26C from amino acid residues 23 to 219. Claim 34, which depends from Claim 33, recites one of the biological activities of the CLMF protein, in particular that the CLMF protein can induce proliferation of phytohemagglutinin (PHA)-activated peripheral blood cells.

These claims are fully supported by the instant application. Working Example 13 (pp. 71-78) describes the successful generation and characterization of monoclonal antibodies directed against CLMF. The structural features and biological activity of the CLMF protein recited in the claims are as characterized and described in the 'instant application. For a characterization of the size and amino acid sequence of the two CLMF subunits, see, *e.g.*, p. 33, ll. 10-12 and Figure 7; p. 64, ll. 10-17 and Fig. 25; and p. 67, ll. 5-15 and Fig. 26. The ability of the CLMF protein to induce proliferation of PHA-activated peripheral blood cells (referred to in the specification as a "T cell growth factor (TGF) assay") is described and demonstrated at p. 19, l. 15 to p. 21, l. 2, and in working Example 9 (pp. 54-60).

Claim 35, which depends from Claim 33, and independent Claim 37 are directed to monoclonal antibodies that react with the 40 kD CLMF subunit. Working example 13 describes the production and characterization of monoclonal antibodies which specifically react with the 40 kD CLMF subunit. See especially p. 73, l. 20 to p. 74, l. 9.

Claim 36, which depends from Claim 33, and independent Claim 37 are directed to monoclonal antibodies that react with the 35 kD CLMF subunit. Example 14 (pp. 79-80) describes a method for producing monoclonal antibodies which specifically react with the 35 kD CLMF subunit, wherein the monoclonal antibodies are generated against a synthetic peptide containing a 35 kD CLMF subunit amino acid sequence.

The specification has been amended to update the related application information and to adjust figure legend designations accordingly.

The amendments made herein do not constitute new matter. Applicants respectfully request that the amendments and remarks made herein be entered into the record of the above-captioned patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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